PTO/SB/30 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Request Application Number 10/715,390 For November 19, 2003 Filing Date Continued Examination First Named Inventor Shigeo TANAKA et al. Transmitta⁶ 2838 Art Unit Address to: Mail Stop RCE Adolf D. Berhane Examiner Name Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Attorney Docket Number 032116 Alexandria VA 22313-1450 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ii iii Other **Enclosed** Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Amendment/Reply Other Petition for Extension of Time ii Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of ___ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) Other Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when RCE is filed. Check in the amount of \$ 910.00 enclosed 67/27/2006 SDEHRÖRT 00000045 10715398 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) 799.49 OP 明 拉海18时 Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees in connection with filing of this paper or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Name 35,348 Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) William M. Schertler (Print/Type)

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and

Signature

Signature

Name (Print/Type)

Trademark Office on the date shown below.

July 26, 2006